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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/626,997	07/25/2003	Hsueh Sung Tung	H0005304	3726

7590 12/01/2005

Colleen D. Szuch, Esq.
Honeywell International Inc.
101 Columbia Road
Morristown, NJ 07962-2245

EXAMINER

NWAONICHA, CHUKWUMA O

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1621

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/626,997		TUNG ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha		1621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/15/05.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-9,11-17,19-31 and 33-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,4,10,18 and 32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Current Status

1. This action is responsive to Applicants' amendment of 15 August 2005.
2. Claims 1-35 are under active consideration in the instant application.
3. The objection of claims 2, 4, 10, 18 and 32 is maintained for the reasons stated below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 3, 5-9, 11-17, 19-31 and 33-35 rejected under 35 U.S.C 103 as being unpatentable over Elsheikh et al. {US 5,895,825} and Elsheikh et al. {US 6,124,510} are maintained for reasons set forth in the previous Office Action of 19 May 2005.

Response to Arguments

Applicants' amendments filed 15 August 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants' argue that their invention relates to a two-stage process for the manufacture of 1,3,3,3-tetrafluoropropene (1234ze). Applicants contend that another aspect of their invention proceeds by a thermal decomposition process. Furthermore, applicants argue that the two-step process is not suggested by Elsheikh et al. {US 5,895,825} or Elsheikh et al. {US 6,124,510} according to any experimental protocol outlined in US 5,895,825 and US 6,124,510. The Examiner disagrees with the applicant arguments because it is reasonably expected that one of ordinary skill in the art wishing to obtain 1234ze would practice the present invention by combining the teaching of the two references (that is, preparing 1.1.1.3.3-pentafluoropropane (245fa) from 1.1.1-

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trifluoro-3-chloro-2-propene (1233zd) followed by the preparation of 1234ze from intermediate products (245fa or 1-chloro-1.3.3.3-tetrafluoropropane).

As noted by the examiner, one of ordinary skill in the art would have a reasonable expectation of success in practicing the instant invention by conducting the process of US 5,895,825 followed by the process of US 6,124,510 to arrive at the instantly claimed process of converting 1233zd to 1234ze. The choice of the two-step synthesis depends on the availability and cost of raw materials, and convenience in preparing the intermediate compound. The combination of the steps process is not a patentable distinction as claimed by applicants because the references cited teach the elements of the claimed invention with sufficient guidance, particularity, and with a reasonable expectation of success, that the invention would be *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Applicants' amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha whose telephone number is 571-272-2908. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johann R. Richter can be reached on 571-272-0646. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 1621



ELVIS O. PRICE, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER



Johann R. Richter, Ph.D., Esq.
Supervisory Patent Examiner,
Technology Center 1600